

# Cohasset Marine

vol. I, no. 42

thursday, july 26, 1979

## Assigned To The Desk

### Patrolman Feola In Hot Water Again

Patrolman Randolph Feola, Jr., escaped serious injury early Saturday morning when the van he was driving flipped over on its side after sheering a utility pole in half on Atlantic Avenue in Hull.

Feola pleaded innocent to charges of operating under the influence and driving to endanger in Hingham District Court Monday morning.

No other motor vehicles were involved in the accident which occurred at 5 a.m. in the Green Hill section of Hull; the area was without power for an hour after the pole was struck, police reported.

Selectmen voted last week to rescind their previous May decision to suspend Feola with pay until the court disposition for earlier charges of drunken driving and possession of a dangerous weapon, also levelled by Hull police. That trial date is set for Sept. 18 at Hingham District Court.

The new vote to supercede the former called for the return of Feola for desk duty at police

headquarters without police powers. His duties would be of a clerical nature, Selectman Chairman Arthur Clark said.

Feola returned to the Police Department Monday and assumed his assigned desk duties on the second shift. He was sporting a new short haircut.

Clark said that when the original vote was made, Selectmen were unaware that the case would be continued for months. "We didn't know the case would be dragged out. It could go on for a year," Clark said.

"It's only fair to the town and to the taxpayer," Selectman Rocco Laugelle added.

Police Chief Randolph Feola, Patrolman Feola's father, indicated the new vote to return his son to desk duty was in violation of the police contract, particularly under the sections concerning disciplinary action, extra pay details and overtime.

The article of the police contract which covers disciplinary action and which Chief Feola feels

was violated in particular by Selectmen, reads, "No permanent employee shall be removed, dismissed, discharged or suspended in any manner except for just cause, and at any hearings or interviews in which there is a question as to whether or not the employee's job is in jeopardy, he may have an opportunity to have an attorney present on his behalf." The Chief noted that neither Feola, Jr. nor his attorney were apprised of the meeting and weren't in attendance.

Chief Feola also said that extra pay details and overtime, which the contract reads will be distributed evenly, offered to regular officers first and assigned by the chief, also leaves his son at an unfair disadvantage.

"I don't see how they (Selectmen) can suddenly dispense with the collective bargaining agreement," he said.

Selectmen will meet this week, although a meeting wasn't regularly scheduled, to discuss the matter of the new arrest.

### School Board Endorses METCO Plan

The School Committee unanimously voted to sign a revised signature sheet approving the program and fiscal data information required by the State Board of Education on Cohasset's Metco proposal. Metco coordinator Thelma Burns also signed the agreement.

The Committee and the state Board had been at a standoff concerning requirements for statistical, financial and programmatic reports since last May. The Committee at that time had returned the proposal signed, but with the deletion of the phrase "that it (the Committee) will comply with the Department's request for statistical, financial, or programmatic reports." The new signature sheet will include the phrase previously deleted.

Three committee members met with officials from the Bureau of Equal Education Opportunity last week, to discuss and better define the nature of the requested reports. Committee member Diana Kornet, spokesman for the visiting members, said they were satisfied with EEO's explanation of the reports and recommended that the Committee sign the clean signature sheet.

(turn to page 14)



CREATURE FROM DEEP isn't really a seamonster surfacing at Rocky Beach but 15-year-old diver Bill O'Connell.

[Greg Derr photo]

### Oldest Drama Club Still Young

By Judith Epstein

The Cohasset Drama Club is the oldest continuing drama club in the country and is now in its 59th year.

Ironically, Club President Ron Massa, a member for two years, assumed leadership for the renowned troupe after just three months membership. "I was asked to try out for 'The Hound of the Baskervilles,'" Massa recalls, and he wound up with the lead — Sir Henry Baskerville, himself. He was reelected president again this year, and is having the time of his life.

The Drama Club's productions are primarily straight dramatics, Massa reports, as the last musical "Where's Charlie" was performed in 1961. "It's our tradition to do usually two comedies and one drama," he said of the three yearly productions. Massa finds that the Drama Club's selections, which are painstakingly culled out by the play selection committee from literally thousands of plays, blend nicely with other area drama companies, such as the musically-minded Hingham Civic Theatre and the Duxbury Bay Players.

Tradition is one of the names of this drama club's game, for during the past 58

(turn to page 13)